

Zion Lutheran Church
2020 Annual Meeting
January 26, 2020
(For the year 2019)

Immediately following
10:00 Combined Worship
and Potluck Dinner



Zion Lutheran Church
2022 East Second Street
Superior, Wisconsin 54880
Phone- 715-398-3663
<http://zionsuperior.org>

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Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

- I. Call to Order
- II. Opening Devotions
- III. Approval of Minutes of the Annual Meeting held January 27, 2019
- IV. Reports:
 - A. Report from the Bishop
 - B. Report from the Congregational Council
 - C. Reports from the Committees
 1. Worship & Music Committee
 2. Prayer Chain Report
 3. Discipleship Committee
 - a. Vacation Bible School
 - b. Sunday School
 - c. LOGOS
 - d. Tuesday Missions
 4. Stewardship Committee
 5. Endowment Committee
 6. Women of the ELCA (WELCA)
 8. Altar Guild
 9. Operations & Finance Committee
- V. Accept recommendation of church council on Pastor Victor's salary and office hours.
(Office hours will be on Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday. Salary will be increased \$2,500 to \$36,327.)
- VI. Presentation and Adoption of the 2020 Mission Plan (Budget)
- VII. Elections
 - A. Report from the Nominating Committee
 - B. Elections – Council Members, Assembly Delegates, Conference Representatives
- VIII. Unfinished Business
- IX. New Business
 - A. Recognition and Appreciation
- X. Closing Prayer

Zion Lutheran Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes for January 27, 2019
(To be approved at the 2020 Annual Meeting)

The annual meeting was called to order at 11:25 am by President Vicky Holm. Forty-one members signed in on the meeting attendance sheets.

Lucy Sullivan made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 29, 2018 Annual Meeting as submitted. Polly Lohman seconded and the motion carried.

The following reports were reviewed without addition or correction:

- Pastor's Report
- 2018 Congregation Council Report
- Operations and Finance Annual Report 2018
- Logos Annual Report 2018-2019
- 2018 Vacation Bible School Annual Report
- Sunday School 2018 Annual Report
- Spiritual Growth and Tuesday Missions 2018 Annual Report
- Prayer Chain Annual Report 2018
- Altar Guild/Naomi Circle Annual Report 2018
- Women of the ELCA (WELCA) Annual Report
- 2018 Sew 'N Sews
- 2018 Nominating Committee
- 2018 Shiny Paper
- 2018 Annual Report-Music Ministry
- Zion Total Year 2018 from Counting Sheets
 - There was, however, brief discussion as follows: For the Pastor's Report, clarification was made regarding comments about the future of the church in terms of planning for possible pastoral changes in the ELCA churches in Superior as a whole. Pastor Victor provided extra detail and noted that the information at this time is simply something to consider.
 - Jan Arena thanked those who have supported the Sew 'N Sews in their projects.
 - Jeanette Betterman thanked the Alter Guild servers, noted an addition to the committee and asked for others to volunteer to serve.
 - Shiny Paper collection is no longer occurring due to the fact that the business which used to take the paper is not doing so anymore.

The Treasurer's Report and the 2018 Financial Information were reviewed without addition or correction. The Proposed 2019 Mission Plan (Spending Plan) was reviewed. Bob Warner mad a motion to accept the plan as submitted, with a second by Bill Traynor. The motion carried.

Elections

Prior to the election of council members, Council Secretary Lynn Rochon made a correction to the ballot as submitted. The ballot noted that 4 members are needed. However Zion's Constitution, states as follows:

CONGREGATION COUNCIL C12.01. *The voting membership of the Congregation Council shall consist of the pastor, the officers of the congregation, **and** not more than 12 nor fewer than 9 members of the congregation.* In prior discussion, council interpretation is that 5 members need to be added to the council, as officers are not to be counted in the 9-12 member requirement. Therefore, the Nominating Committee presented 5 members.

Church Council-Three Year Term (5 needed): Deanna Traynor, Bob Warner, Christel Lewis, Aine Merrill and Margaret Sundet agreed to nomination and were listed on the ballot. No other nominations were made from the floor. A motion was made by Jan Arena and seconded by Paul Freer to close the nominations from the floor after three requests for additional nominations by President Vicky Holm. Motion carried. Tim Ingersoll made a motion to accept the nominations for church council as listed on the ballot and Polly Lohman seconded. Motion carried.

Nominating Committee-One Year Term: There were no nominations listed on the ballot. The following nominations were received from the floor: Don Anderson (outgoing council member), Polly Lohman and Anthony Anderson. Greg Kvam made a motion to accept the nominations as listed. Jan Arena seconded and the motion carried.

Audit Committee-One Year Term: Nominations from the floor included Bob Warner, Lucy Sullivan and JR Pedersen. Kendra Lohman and Polly Lohman will continue to serve as there is a three year span of audits to complete. Jeanette Betterman made a motion to accept the audit committee nominations with a second by Christel Lewis. Motion carried.

Annual Synod Assembly Representatives: Nominations from the floor were made for Aine Merrill and Cheryl Kucharski to attend as representatives, with Tim Ingersoll as an alternate. Paul Freer made a motion to accept this nomination and Karen St. George seconded. Motion carried.

Conference Assembly Delegates: Nominations from the floor were made for Karen St. George and Vicky Holm to serve as delegates. Shelby Kittelson made a motion to accept this nomination and Polly Lohman seconded. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

1. Vicki Garro explained that Thrivent has two ways to support outreach in congregations. The first is to request to be a Thrivent Action Team. A proposal is submitted which takes about a week to be approved and the team will receive support, including a \$250 donation for “seed money” towards the accomplishment of the proposal. Additionally, Thrivent members can designate their choice dollars to Zion. Information can be found on the Thrivent website. Finally, ELCA has grants as well. Check that website for information.
2. Karen St. George encouraged members to participate in a 40 Days of Giving activity during Lent in which an item is placed in a bag every day during the season and donated at the end of Lent. Karen also noted the importance of using direct deposit to give offerings directly to Zion, especially when attendance is difficult. Greg Kvam added that donations can also be made using Paypal for those who have accounts.
3. Greg Kvam noted that smile.amazon.com allows Amazon shoppers to donate to charities (such as Zion) without an increase in the cost of their purchases.

New Business

1. Vicky Holm noted that new leadership was needed if a pasty bake was to be scheduled.
2. There are still poinsettias that need to be taken home or they will be disposed of after the meeting.
3. The church council from Concordia Lutheran Church has contacted Vicky Holm asking Zion to participate in a meeting to brainstorm ways in which the ELCA churches in Superior can support each other in outreach and growth. A meeting is planned for Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at 6:00 pm. Vicky plans to attend and has invited those interested to do so as well.
4. An updated Picture Directory is planned as part of our 125 year anniversary celebration. Updates in contact information will be requested over the next weeks in preparation for the directory.
5. Vicky Holm thanked the Zion Church family for working together and serving each other and the community. Pastor Victor recognized the outgoing council members and thanked them for their service.

A motion was made at 12:20 pm by Bob Warner to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Lucy Sullivan. Motion carried and council members gathered to meet briefly to vote on officers.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn Rochon
Council Secretary

Zion Lutheran Church

Staff

Pastor	Victor St. George pastor@zionsuperior.org	715-398-3663 218-343-4089
Church Secretary	Pearl Swanstrom churchoffice@zionsuperior.org	715-398-3663
Organist	Gretchen Johnston, OSB	218-576-9533
Music Director	Gretchen Johnston, OSB	218-576-9533
Custodian	Darren Velin	715-817-5984
Financial Secretary	Aine Merrill	715-364-8539
Recording Secretary	Linda Brow	715-398-6075
Church Accountant	Greg Kvam	715-398-5842

Church Council

Term Ends January 2020	Term Ends January 2021	Term Ends January 2022
Linda Moe, Secretary	Margaret Sundet	Deanna Traynor
Donald Anderson	Cheryl Kucharyski	Bob Warner, President
Laura Kilner	Pat Hovi	Christel Lewis
Tim Ingersoll, Vice President	Anthony Anderson	Aine Merrill, Treasurer
	Pastor Victor St. George	

Pastor's Report

There have been a number of meetings in the past few months concerning the future of the five ELCA churches here in Superior. None of the individual churches are averaging one hundred people in worship currently, and that is a major concern.

I would like to make a couple of points. First, this does not mean that we are looking to merge churches. Each of the congregations has significant strengths and no one is interested in losing the ministries and missions that are strong. Second, we aren't looking at "yoking" churches necessarily. In other words, having one pastor serve two or more congregations. Third, it is important to note that this is not something that the folks down at the Synod office are directing. They are offering resources for us to use to figure out the direction we believe will help us to continue to serve God here in this place.

Some of the things that have been discussed are joint worship opportunities. Last Good Friday there was one worship service, held here at Zion. This year Good Friday we will gather at Bethel in South Superior. Last year we did a round robin for Lent – each pastor preached at each church during the five Wednesdays during lent, with Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday at our home churches. We plan on doing that again.

Last August all five churches met on a Sunday in August to worship in Billings Park. This year the pavilion has been reserved for August 23, and we can all once again join together and celebrate with our neighbors across town. One of the churches other than Zion will take the lead on this event. There is the possibility of celebrating Pentecost this year at Concordia Lutheran church with all five churches participating.

We are also looking at service opportunities. One of the things that we have not really engaged with is the "God's work, our hands" event, in which the ELCA sets aside one Sunday in which congregations might work in the community. This year the God's Work, Our Hands Sunday is on September 13, and we will gather with the other churches at Wisconsin Point and do a clean-up. The plan is to finish with a bonfire (and maybe a picnic).

We also wish to work together to send our youth to the triennial youth gathering that the ELCA does. In 2021, from June 29 to July 3, this will occur in Minneapolis, so travel expenses will be pretty easy to meet. In order for anyone who wishes to participate, there will be fund-raisers such as an apple pie bake at Bethel, a pasty bake at Pilgrim, and so on. Youth who wish to participate in the gathering will be expected to participate in the fund raising activities. We can certainly come up with travel expenses, and early registration (starting in September of this year) is \$350 per participant.

There is also the possibility that Luther Park or Luther Point could run Vacation Bible School for all five churches here at Zion. The only issue with this is the expense. We have always been able to offer our VBS for free, which is a great gift to the families who attend. The Bible camps charge \$30 per child, and expect a minimum of 40 children. We hope to figure something out for that.

So there are a lot of opportunities to continue to work together with our mission partners here in Superior, and we continue to go together prayerfully.

Pastor Victor

2019 Pastoral Acts and Membership Changes

Members Received by Transfer or Other

Debra Nephew, Stella Week, Julie Hebb, all on July 21, 2019

Transfers Out

Sandra Hanson 12-11-19

Baptisms

Elijah David Kulas 7-24-19, Brayden Ira McLeod 6-2-19, Maelyn Jean Mertz 6-30-19,
Grayson Alexander Joseph Pfannebecker 9-15-19, Rowan John Trout 10-6-19,

Marriages

Burials/Funerals

Delories L. Anderson 2-1-19, Kenneth Mertz Sr. 2-22-19, Jenna Roberts 4-21-19,
Marian J. Maki 6-13-19, Jerry Christie 8-16-19, Douglas J. Shykes 8-23-19,
Melvin Maki 9-30-19, Jack Waite 11-11-19

Confirmands

Transfers out

The members of Zion make this church a welcoming and inclusive place of worship. The members of this church have responded to spiritual and physical needs of the surrounding community. This church has a strong commitment to Superior's youth. Our members have also responded to Zion's financial needs by fund raising and increased giving. In this, we the members of Zion, should be grateful for God's blessings.

The council is also grateful to all who have donated their time and talents on various projects. There are many of you. Projects of special note are the 125th anniversary celebration, a new pictorial directory, updated membership information in our computer system, and Paul Freer's work on the basement windows and storage room.

There are serious challenges to our congregation and the other four ELCA congregations in Superior. All have declined in membership and giving. Zion has not been immune to that trend. The five churches are in discussions (open to all) on how our worship, financing, expenses, staffing and traditions may change. Zion, for instance, of the five has the only non-traditional service. The churches, hopefully by God's inspiration, will face change. This can be painful.

Financial needs are hardly ever fun to discuss, but we need to. This congregation, in order to pay our staff and pay our bills, relies on fund raisers to cover those expenses. The volunteers for these events are increasing in age and not enough younger people are replacing them. The congregation either has to increase their giving or find younger people to replace the old volunteers who spiritually wish to participate but physically are unable, or a combination of both.

The council will submit to the Annual meeting a proposal on changing Pastor Victor's compensation and hours. (Pastor Victor's office hours will be on Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday. Salary will be increased \$2,500 to \$36,327.) The council will also propose a solution to the back-pension payments for the pastor.

The council is grateful to all who have participated in Zion's service to God and the community. We go forward prayerfully trusting in hearing in God's direction for our future.

Respectfully
Bob Warner
Council President

Operations and Finance Annual Report 2019

LOGOS 2018-2019

2019 Vacation Bible School Annual Report

Sunday School 2019 Annual Report

Spiritual Growth and Tuesday Missions 2019 Annual Report

PRAYER CHAIN ANNUAL REPORT 2019

The prayer chain mission is to pray for our church, our members and anyone else who requests prayers of healing, comfort, etc.

Each week two Zion families' names are randomly chosen. Postcards are sent to the families letting them know they are being prayed for. Also, we usually have other requests for prayers.

We want to remember two very dedicated prayer chain members who passed away this past year-Marian Maki and Lois Smith.

Prayer Chain Members, Esther Nolan, Aine Merrill, Mary Jo Bartylla, Emily Larson, Jan Arena, Sharon Miller, Jean Madsen, Linda Moe, Eve Bagan, Mary Nykanen, Lynn Rochon, Linda Brow, Bev Scully, and Cheryl Kucharyski.

Please consider becoming a member of the prayer chain. To start a prayer request or become a member contact Linda Moe at 715-398-6779 or moelindag6779@gmail.com. Thank you to our faithful prayer chain members.

Linda Moe, Chairperson

Altar Guild/Naomi Circle Report 2019

The ladies of Zion Lutheran Church that serve on the Altar Guild otherwise known as the Naomi's have been very busy this year keeping the Altar clean and ready for all services held at Zion. We are responsible for all services including 9:00 and 10:50 a.m. Sunday Services, baptisms, weddings, funerals and all special services during Advent, Lent and any other time of the church year. We thank the members of Zion for supporting us with flowers at Christmas (27 beautiful Poinsettias) . Easter and any other occasion throughout the year. This year we were saddened by the death of Marian Maki, one of our faithful members and Vicky Garro who supplied us with our homemade Baptismal Napkins as her gift to Zion. Marian was a member of the Altar Naomi's since the 1970's and Vicky made our Baptismal Napkins the past several years. We are thankful that Dani Watkins and Kate Maki will continue to help us as a tribute to their mother.

Our members: Sunnie Lamma, Linda Moe, Beth Arnson, Dani Watkins, Kate Maki, Lynn Rochon, Mary Hickman and Jeanette Betterman have been very faithful in this ministry.

We look forward to another year of service and again we ask that you pray and consider joining the Naomi Circle (Altar Guild) in keeping the altar ready for worship at Zion. This is a perfect opportunity to serve God and Zion Lutheran Church.

May God bless you and grant you peace.

Jeanette Betterman, Chairperson

WOMEN OF THE ELCA (WELCA)

Every female member of Zion is invited to a meeting on the 2nd Sunday of the month between worship services. Each meeting we review our previous month's activities and make plans for the next month.

During 2019, we sponsored a Super Bowl Sub-Sandwich sale; a Soup and Sandwich luncheon; we served for five funerals; we had a Thanksgiving Pie Sale and then a cookie/pie/candy sale in December.

January 26th, Jan Arena arranged a baby shower to benefit the New Life Center in Superior. We invited everyone to come join us for a fun party and bring some baby items that are so desperately needed. It was a huge success and we want to thank everyone who donated toward this project.

Our quilters continue to donate quilts to graduating seniors, women's shelters and people in need (*see their report on another page*).

Financial results of our projects include: Sub-sandwich sale-\$312.55; Soup and sandwich luncheon-\$343; Thanksgiving pie sale-\$463; Christmas cookie/pie/candy sale-\$881.45; and the Penny Box-\$87.23. Our group receives the coffee money donated on the 3rd Sunday of each month. This year we received \$282.80.

Some of the donations we made this year include; \$1250 to Zion's General Fund, \$1250 to Zion's Mortgage Reduction Fund; \$50 to LSS program against sex trafficking; and \$50 to the Superior School Board Backpack Project.

We would like to thank Linda and Mike Pelletier for monetary donations to our kitchen. We were able to purchase new coffee cups and the new stainless steel coffee carafes. We also thank Tim and Diane Laberdie for their donation. We also want to thank the people who donated \$330.00 toward quilt batting for the quilters.

We want to thank Greg Kvam for ordering the new large coffee pot we now have and for keeping our kitchen so well-stocked. We also want to thank everyone who helped in any way with our events this year! We couldn't do anything without you. Hope to see you at the next meeting.

Zion WLCA 2019 Financial Report

	<u>General</u>	<u>Quilters</u>	<u>Pennies</u>	<u>Total</u>
Beginning Balance	\$1,227.71	\$159.29	\$127.49	\$1,514.49
Income	4,427.75	\$330.00	\$87.23	\$4,844.98
Donations made	(2,600.00)			(2,600.00)
Expenses	(718.12)	\$(156.24)		(874.36)
Balance on Hand 12/31/19	\$2,337.34	\$333.05	\$214.72	\$2,885.11

Submitted by Aine Merrill, Co-treasurer with Lucille Sullivan

The Sew n'Sews quilters have had a fun and productive year. We began 2019 with a Baby Shower for The New Life Center. It was a big success. Since that we have distributed 44 quilts, 1 tied fleece blanket, 4 lap robes, 4 walker totes, 8 pillow cases, 4 mini pillows, and 3 sleeping bags to various requests. Our recipients have been the Veterans, Casda Harbor House, Ruth House, Military, High School Grads, Encompass Nursing Home, a Benefit, and a local Fire Department. What a group to work with, we are blessed to be able to enjoy the work and to know a job has been well done. My thanks for all the wonderful workers at Zion Lutheran Church for all the known and unknown efforts to outreach to the community.

Submitted by Jan Arena

2019 Annual Report – Worship and Music Ministry

The committee works with Pastor Victor to plan the weekly church services and special services throughout the year.

The Worship and Music Committee meets the second Thursday of the month. Members of the committee include Pastor Victor, Sr. Gretchen Johnston, Eric Evans and Linda Moe.

Submitted by Linda Moe

